

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 24, 2004

SENATE BILL

No. 1732

Introduced by Senator Hollingsworth

February 20, 2004

An act to add ~~Article 3.5 (commencing with Section 33540) to Chapter 5 of~~ Chapter 5.5 (commencing with Section 33600) to Part 1 of Division 15 of the Food and Agricultural Code, relating to dairy.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1732, as amended, Hollingsworth. Dairy: environmental quality.

Existing law generally regulates the sanitation of dairy farms and milk product plants.

This bill would state findings and declarations of the Legislature with respect to the importance of dairy farms to the state. The bill would create within the Department of Food and Agriculture a California Dairy Farmer Environmental Enhancement Program. The purpose of this program would be to add to the protection of this state's resources, including, but not limited to, surface and ground water, air and air quality, and animal and fish habitat, by providing on-farm dairy environmental enhancement. This bill would also create the California Dairy Farm Environmental Enhancement Program Fund Account within the Department of Food and Agriculture Fund. Funds collected pursuant to this program would be expended, as specified.

~~Existing law generally regulates dairy farms with respect to construction or repairs and sanitation.~~

~~This bill would authorize the Secretary of Food and Agriculture to develop a voluntary program to promote the environmental quality of dairy lands, facilities, and operations. The bill would authorize funding~~

for the program to be derived from governmental, private, nonprofit, or industry sources.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

~~SECTION 1. — Article 3.5 (commencing with Section 33540)~~

SECTION 1. Chapter 5.5 (commencing with Section 33600)
is added to Part 1 of Division 15 of the Food and Agricultural
Code, to read:

CHAPTER 5.5 CALIFORNIA DAIRY FARMER ENVIRONMENTAL
ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

33600. The Legislature finds and declares the following:

(a) The dairy industry is of extreme importance to the vitality
of the state.

(b) The dairy industry is responsible for 17.5 billion dollars
(\$17,500,000,000) in California economic activity and for
122,300 California jobs.

(c) It is important to provide business-oriented incentives to
improve the state's air and water quality in order to maintain a
healthy environment.

33601. (a) There shall be established within the Department
of Food and Agriculture a California Dairy Farmer
Environmental Enhancement Program.

(b) The purpose of this program is to add to the protection of
this state's resources, including, but not limited to, surface and
ground water, air and air quality, and animal and fish habitat, by
providing on-farm dairy environmental enhancement.

33602. There shall be the California Dairy Farm
Environmental Enhancement Program Fund Account within the
Department of Food and Agriculture Fund.

33604. Funds collected pursuant to this chapter shall be used
for the following:

(a) Environmental education, environmental research, water
conservation, farmland improvement, proven waster-to-energy
technologies, and on-site waste management.

1 (b) *Other enhancement activities as determined by the*
2 *secretary to be of benefit to the people of California.*

3 33605. *An advisory committee shall be established to assist*
4 *the secretary in the administration of this chapter. The members of*
5 *the advisory committee shall be appointed by the secretary and*
6 *may hold office at the pleasure of the secretary.*

7 ~~is added to Chapter 5 of Part 1 of Division 15 of the Food and~~
8 ~~Agricultural Code, to read:~~

9
10 ~~Article 3.5. Environmental Quality~~

11
12 ~~33540. The secretary may develop a voluntary program to~~
13 ~~promote the environmental quality of dairy lands, facilities, and~~
14 ~~operations. Funding for the program may be derived from~~
15 ~~governmental, private, nonprofit, or industry sources. The~~
16 ~~program may include, but is not limited to, actions to do the~~
17 ~~following:~~

18 ~~(a) Improve the environmental efficiency of dairy operations.~~

19 ~~(b) Provide conjunctive environmental benefits.~~

20 ~~(c) Provide industry education through demonstration projects~~
21 ~~or by other means.~~

22 ~~(d) Coordinate and facilitate the use and application of other~~
23 ~~public and private programs.~~